

Kui-Chiu KWOK
"Meltblowing Method And Apparatus"
Atty. Docket No. 8010-61

Appl. No. 09/528,357
Confirm. No. 4073
Examiner J. Del Sole, AU 1732

Claims 1-47 (Canceled).

48. (Previously Presented) A meltblowing system comprising:

a body member having a plurality of first fluid orifices, the body member having a plurality of second fluid orifices, each first fluid orifice flanked on substantially opposing sides by two separate second fluid orifices,

the plurality of first fluid orifices and the plurality of second fluid orifices formed by respective corresponding fluid conduits disposed non-convergently in the body member;

a plurality of filaments, each filament emanating from a corresponding one of the plurality of first fluid orifices, the plurality of filaments each having a predominant vacillation amplitude between the two second fluid orifices on substantially opposing sides of the corresponding first fluid orifice.

49. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 48, the plurality of first fluid orifices protruding relative to the plurality of second fluid orifices.

50. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 48, two portions of the body member proximate each first fluid orifice devoid of fluid orifices, the two portions of the body member devoid of fluid orifices disposed symmetrically on substantially opposite

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sides of the corresponding first fluid orifice between the two second fluid orifices on substantially opposite sides thereof.

Claims 51-66 (Canceled).

67. (Currently Amended) A meltblowing apparatus comprising:
a plurality of first fluid [orifice] orifices in a body member;
two second fluid orifices in the body member associated with each first fluid orifice, the two second fluid orifices disposed symmetrically on substantially opposite sides of the associated first fluid orifice,

the plurality of first fluid orifices and the associated second fluid orifices arranged in a common series of orifices [~~each have a corresponding fluid conduit disposed in the body member~~],

two portions of the body member proximate each of the plurality of first fluid [orifice] orifices devoid of fluid orifices, the two portions of the body member devoid of fluid orifices disposed symmetrically on substantially opposite sides of the first fluid orifice between the two second fluid orifices.

68. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 67 further comprising in combination therewith a filament emanating from each of the plurality of first fluid

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[orifice] orifices, each ~~[the]~~ filament having a major vacillation amplitude between the two second fluid orifices on substantially opposite sides of the first fluid orifice.

69. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 68, each ~~[the]~~ filament having a minor vacillation amplitude between the portions of the body member devoid of fluid orifices.

70. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 67, the plurality of first fluid orifices and associated second fluid orifices disposed on a fluid dispensing face of the body member.

71. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 70, each of the plurality of first fluid orifice protrudes relative to the associated second fluid orifices.

Claim 72. (Canceled)

73. (Currently Amended) A meltblowing apparatus comprising:
a first fluid orifice in a body member;

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two second fluid orifices formed by corresponding non-converging conduit portions in the body member, the two second fluid orifices and corresponding non-converging conduit portions disposed symmetrically on not more than two substantially opposite sides of the first fluid orifice,

the first and second fluid orifices each have a corresponding fluid conduit disposed in the body member.

74. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 73, two portions of the body member proximate the first fluid orifice devoid of fluid orifices, the two portions of the body member devoid of fluid orifices disposed symmetrically on substantially opposite sides of the first fluid orifice between the two second fluid orifices.

Claim 75 (Canceled).

Claim 76 (Canceled).

77. (Currently Amended) A meltblowing apparatus comprising:
a first fluid orifice in a body member;
a plurality of second fluid orifices formed by corresponding conduit portions
in the body member,

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the second fluid orifices and corresponding conduit portions disposed symmetrically on not more than two substantially opposite sides of the first fluid orifice, at least one second fluid orifice on one side of the first fluid orifice and at least one second fluid orifice on the other substantially opposite side thereof,

the first and second fluid orifices each have a corresponding fluid conduit disposed in the body member,

the first fluid orifice protrudes relative to the second fluid orifices on the substantially opposites side thereof.

78. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 77, portions of the body member proximate the first fluid orifice devoid of fluid orifices, the portions of the body member devoid of fluid orifices disposed symmetrically on substantially opposite sides of the first fluid orifice between the second fluid orifices.

Claim 79. (Canceled).

80. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 77, the body member comprises at least two plates.

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81. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 77,
a plurality of first fluid orifices in the body member,
each of the plurality of first fluid orifices having second fluid orifices
disposed symmetrically on not more than two substantially opposite sides thereof, at least
one second fluid orifice on one side of each first fluid orifice and at least one second fluid
orifice on the other substantially opposite side thereof,

the plurality of first fluid orifices and the second fluids arranged in a
common series.

82. (Previously Presented) The apparatuses of Claim 81, portions of the body
member proximate each first fluid orifice devoid of second fluid orifices, the portions of
the body member devoid of second fluid orifices disposed symmetrically on substantially
opposite sides of the first fluid orifice between the second fluid orifices.

Claim 83 (Canceled)